

Commission Quarterly

Welcome to the new E-CQ

Welcome to the first email pdf version of the Commission Quarterly redesigned to save printing costs, keep up with the times and technology, and not to mention help save trees!

We redesigned the size so you can print out a copy to read at your leisure and pass around. Also, feel free to forward the CQ to coworkers, friends and family. Copies of each issue can also be retrieved from our city's Interlinc Web site at: www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/women.htm.

The CQ remains free of charge and open to anyone wanting to stay in touch with the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission work, events and programs. If you would like to add or change your email address, contact us at 441-7716 or email the information to llwc@lincoln.ne.gov.

Proud Member of



Honorees Celebrated at Event

The Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission, along with Friends of LLWC, celebrated its 30th annual *Weaving Women's Voices* event in recognition of International Women's Day. The event, held March 10 at the Cornhusker Hotel, honored four outstanding community leaders.

Senator DiAnna Schimek received the 2006 Alice Paul Award, presented to a woman whose life reflects her dedication to the struggle for equality. Senator Schimek has worked tirelessly for nearly two decades as a Nebraska State Senator addressing the needs of those who are underrepresented, especially women and children.

Union College student Kate Simmons received the Sojourner Truth Award for her work in enlightening her peers on the real meaning of feminism while advocating women's equality as a writer for the college's newspaper, *The Clocktower*.

In honor of a Nebraska journalist, the Erasmus Correll award is designed to heighten awareness of men's efforts in the advancement of women's equality. This year's recipient, Milo Mumgaard, executive director for the Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest, has been a dedicated leader on issues that affect the lives of thousands of women and their families in Nebraska.

Karen Dienstbier, nationally known artist and teacher, received the Woman Artist in Visual Arts Award. Dienstbier has been publicly and privately teaching art for the past two decades, and stands as Artist-In-Residence at several colleges across the nation. She has earned awards for her work locally, nationally and internationally.

U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau Director Shanae Chun served as keynote speaker for the event which attracted more than 200 people. Chun is President Bush's highest ranking Korean-American appointee and she heads the only federal agency charged with advocating on behalf of women in the workforce.



Shinae Chun, left, U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau Director, stands next to Jinny Kim, an International Student from South Korea majoring in Nursing at Union College; Nebraska's First Lady Sally Ganem; and LLWC Director Bonnie Coffey.



Top to bottom, left to right: Leola Bullock with Senator DiAnna Schimek, Kate Simmons and LLWC Commissioner Beth Rodacker, and Milo Mumgaard addressing the group.

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About Us

The Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission (LLWC) is an Advisory Board created by elected officials to advise the Mayor, Lincoln City Council and Lancaster County Board on issues that impact women. Please address any correspondence to: Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission, 440 S. 8th St., Ste. 100, Lincoln NE 68508-2294 or call (402) 441-7717.

Editorial Policy:

The Commission Quarterly is a publication of Friends of LLWC. Publishing costs are paid by Friends of LLWC. Materials appearing in this publication shall be in accordance with the purposes, goals and official positions of the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission and Friends of LLWC. The Commission Quarterly is published four times a year: January, April, July and October.

Criteria for Publication:

Submissions by community groups and individuals are welcome. Deadlines are the first of the month preceding the month of publication. Articles are subject to editing, with the author's compliance. Specific opinions expressed are not necessarily the opinions held by LLWC employees, its Commissioners or Friends of LLWC.

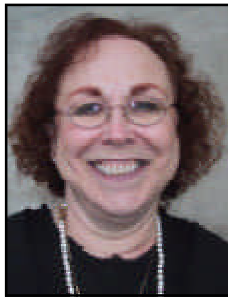
Advertising

Advertising is available in a business card sized ad and will be accepted as space is available on a first come, first serve basis. All ads should be camera ready and must be submitted one month before the publication date. For more information on advertising opportunities, call 441-7717.

Friends of the Commission

Friends of the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission is a 501 (c)(3) organization that solicits funds for commission projects.

Friends President's Letter



What If...

By Roberta Stick, Friends President

One of the goals of the LLWC is to encourage women's participation in the political process - by running for political office and/or by voting in the various elections. Why is it that so few of us exercise our right to vote? Is it because it requires some effort on our part, such as making time to go to the designated polling place on election day?

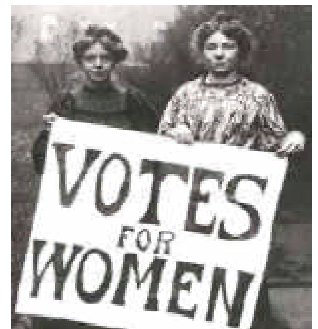
The LLWC has publicized the fact that you can vote by mail, i.e. get a ballot from the election commission's offices and return that ballot either in person to the commission's office or by mail. Many probably still believe that this option is only available to those who will be "absent" from the state on election day; however, this is no longer true. Anyone can elect to choose this way to vote.

But is there any other way to encourage people to vote? To make the process more "user friendly?" The answer is "Yes." Other states use a system called "early voting", i.e. true user friendly early voting. And here is how it works. From the date early voting begins (perhaps as much as a month before the day of election) until several days before the actual election date, you, the registered voter, can go to a variety of designated locations, e.g. grocery stores, and cast your ballot while you shop. Why not? You are there anyway! So as we look forward to another May primary and work to ensure that all in the community who can vote do vote - by informing them about the candidates' views on a variety of subjects and by explaining how and where to exercise this right - let us all think to the future and consider creating a meaningful early voting system that will expand the times when people can vote as well as the locations as to where they can vote. What if???

Voters Guide Available!

An updated "Why Women Should Vote" voter's guide with information on hot button issues will be available from the LLWC mid-April. This voter's guide includes current statistics and questions for your candidates on health insurance, care-giving for aging individuals, poverty, domestic violence, sexual assault, employment and wages as well as voter registration deadlines, and a mail-in form requesting an absentee ballot.

To receive your copy, send an email with your name, address, and phone number to llwc@lincoln.ne.gov or to our office at 440 S. 8th Street, Ste. 100, Lincoln, NE 68508. "Why Women Should Vote" is published by the Friends of the LLWC.



Candidate Forums and Debates Held April 18

A series of forums and debates was held Tuesday, April 18, featuring candidates on the ballot for the May 9 primary election.

The City's government access cable channel, 5 CITY-TV, taped all forums and debates which will air until election day. Invited participants included:

- All candidates for Legislative Districts #26, #28, #30 and #46;
- Republican candidates for U.S. Senate, Governor and State Treasurer; and
- Democratic candidates for the U.S. First Congressional District, Governor and Secretary of State.

Unopposed candidates in the primary election and the three candidates seeking the at-large seat on the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District were invited to attend and meet voters, but did not debate.

Sponsors are the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County; Saint Paul United Methodist Church; the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission; the Lincoln Area Agency on Aging; the North 27th Business and Civic Association; and the NAACP.

Funding for the 5 CITY-TV production is being provided by the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County Education Fund and the League of Women Voters of Nebraska Education Fund.

The forums and debates will be available through video-on-demand through the Web site: <http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/cic/5citytv/index.htm>.

For a schedule of air times, see the City Web site at and click on the 5 CITY-TV logo.



Tami Soper

LLWC Resident's Letter

Political Participation

By Tami Soper, LLWC President

With election season approaching, I thought it would be fitting that to discuss something near and dear to my heart, political participation. Many people have the desire to become involved, but simply don't know where to begin. I can assure you that regardless of your talents and interests, there are plenty of opportunities available. I visited some sites

on the Internet and compiled a brief list of things you could do to get involved in the political process.

1. Register to vote - Contact the Lancaster County Election Commission for details. If for some reason you are ineligible to vote, encourage your family members and friends who are eligible to register and vote.

2. Attend a public forum - Local organizations frequently hold public meetings to allow elected officials an opportunity to listen to constituents' concerns, inform constituents of their positions on current issues and, discuss laws or policies under consideration. Listening carefully to the statements and all the answers will help you decide which candidates to support on Election Day.

3. Get others involved - Your interest is contagious. Get your family, friends, and neighbors involved in the political process. Invite them to join you when you attend forums and campaign rallies, raise money for candidates or organizations that represent your views, go to vote on Election Day, or volunteer to work in campaigns.

4. Attend the meetings of local boards and commissions - The first step toward political activism is informing yourself about the current activities of your local, state, and national governments. Meetings are held on a regular basis usually at least once a month. For example, if you are interested in education, attend the local school board meeting and become familiar with the issues and concerns of the school district. The knowledge you gain will help you identify better candidates and you may just decide to run for office yourself.

5. Write an Opinion Editorial or Letter to the Editor - Writing to your local paper is a way to express your opinion about current political issues that affect you and your community.

6. Write elected officials - Letters to elected officials can help you gain support for or opposition to a law or regulation, get help obtaining services from a governmental agency, or learn an official's position on a particular issue.

7. Volunteer in campaigns - Successful political campaigns run on volunteer power. Opportunities exist in voter identification, telephone banks, polling and research, logistics, public relations, fundraising, and administration. Assess your talents and offer your time to

Tips for becoming a more informed voter:

Study historical documents like the Declaration of Independence, and the US and State Constitutions - To be an informed participant in the political process, it helps to understand the structure of our governmental institutions.

Study the philosophies of political parties - Nearly all political parties have stated philosophies and all parties have a platform. Study this information and determine which party most closely matches your personal philosophy and viewpoints.

Determine your own personal philosophy - An individual's life experience, influential people (parents, teachers, friends), religious beliefs, knowledge of our country's history, and understanding of political parties all contribute their personal philosophy.

Know the positions of elected officials and candidates - Once you develop a personal philosophy and know what issues are important to you, follow the votes your representatives make. If your views are not represented by the votes made in Congress or the state legislature, get involved to elect a representative that better matches your stand on the issues.

(Sources: <http://www.politicalgrassroots.org/participation.html>, and Grassroots.com)

CQ News

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LLWC Staff

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CQ News

Political Participation

Continued from page 3

your favorite candidate. Keep in mind that campaigns rely upon volunteers for important positions. If you commit yourself to a job, show up on time and earn the trust of the candidate and campaign management.

8. Consider running for office - Qualified candidates are needed for local offices, such as school board member, city council member, and county commissioner, and for state offices, such as state representative, state senator, judge, and elected executive branch offices. You may have the knowledge and skills to serve your community.

Regardless of the level of involvement you choose, any action is better than apathy. More elections have been won and bad policy made because someone failed to stand for their convictions. What happens in our local, state and federal government systems affects our lives everyday. I constantly hear women offer their advice and opinions on topics ranging from WalMart's insurance practices, to reproductive health, and the Presidents foreign policy, but not all of those women vote; not all of those women support female political candidates. I urge you to use your voice when it matters, become politically involved.

Mission Statement

Working as a division of the Mayor's Office since 1976, the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission strives to assure that the women of Lincoln & Lancaster County have full participation in the issues that have an impact on their lives. The Commission advises City and County officials of social, economic and legal barriers that prevent women from choosing their roles in the family, the labor force and society in general, and working toward the elimination of those barriers. With 15 volunteers and a paid staff of three, the Commission continues to engage in activities designed to heighten community awareness in the areas of self-sufficiency, health care, safety, education and act as a clearinghouse of information for women in need.



Primary Election Day is Tuesday, May 9th. Get out and vote!

Primary Election Dates to Know

With the Primary Election less than a month away, here are some important dates to know:

April 21 - Deadline for mail-in registration

May 1, 6:00 p.m. - Deadline for in-person voter registration.

May 3, 4:00 p.m. - Deadline to accept request for early/absentee ballots to be mailed to a specific address.

May 9 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

7:00 p.m. Deadline for agent to pick up early/absentee ballot.

8:00 p.m. Deadline for return of early/absentee ballot.

For more information, check out the Lancaster County Election Commission website at: www.lancaster.ne.gov/election

C Q News Flash - C Q News Flash - C Q News Flash

4th Annual Women & Money Conference Set for September 16th

Make your plans now to attend the 4th annual Women & Money Conference scheduled for Saturday, September 16, 2006, at the Cornhusker/Marriott Hotel in Lincoln, Nebraska.



Included in the day-long event will be featured keynote speakers, lunch, exhibitors and educational workshops to discuss a wide variety of issues surrounding women and their hard-earned money. Sponsored by the LLWC and Friends of the LLWC, for more information contact the LLWC at 441-7716 or email inquiries to: llwc@lincoln.ne.gov.

The Times They Are a Changin' ?

Yes, we know, things do change. New address? Kids grow up? Landed a new job? Got a new friend? Whatever your reasons, the Women's Commission continues to be your reliable source of women's news on women's issues locally and nationally. Yes, life does go on! And, we don't want to miss you! Be sure to keep us informed on your new contact information. If you have received this publication in error, please call **441-7716** or email llwc@lincoln.ne.gov to be removed from the list.

WomenTalk

**"Making Connections:
Women & Communication
Styles & Networking"**

A show by women about women's issues - aired four times each week on 5 City TV - Cable Ch. 5

Program Schedule

Tuesdays, 9:30 PM

Wednesdays, 10 PM

Thursdays, 1 PM

Sundays, 10 AM

-show subject to preempting



Wage Gap Narrows Only Slightly

With the national observance of Equal Pay Day coming Tuesday, April 25, the National Committee on Pay Equity reported that the median earnings of women working full-time year-round was 77% of men's median earnings in 2005.

Unfortunately, the NCPE goes on to say, this narrowing of the wage gap from 76% last year was achieved only because men's earnings fell more than women's during that time. Women's earnings were \$31,223, a drop of 1%, while men's earnings were \$40,798, a drop of 2.3% from the previous year. Median earnings for women of color continue to be lower, in general, than earnings for men as a whole. In 2004, the earnings for African American women were \$27,730, 68% of men's earnings (up from 66% last year to return to the level of 2002), Latinas at \$23,444, 57% of men's earnings (a slight gain from 55% last year and 56% in 2002), and Asian American women at \$35,975, 88% of men's earnings (an increase from 80% the last two years).

In research launched in January of 2005, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Educational Foundation reported that nationally, college-educated women earn only 72 percent as much as college-educated men, a wage gap of 28 cents on the dollar. In every state, a persistent and significant gap exists between the earnings of college-educated, full-time working women and college-educated, full-time working men.

The wage gap exists, in part, because many women and people of color are still segregated into a few low-paying occupations. More than half of all women workers hold sales, clerical and service jobs. According to the NCPR, studies show that the more an occupation is dominated by women or people of color, the less it pays. Part of the wage gap results from differences in education, experience or time in the workforce.

But a significant portion cannot be explained by any of those factors; the General Accounting Office's Oct. 2003 report "Women's Earnings," which examined 18 years of data, found a 20 percent earnings gap between women and men that could not be explained, even when accounting for demographic and work-related factors such as occupation, industry, race, marital status and job tenure. This gap is attributable to discrimination; certain jobs pay less simply because they are held by women and people of color.

Pay equity—evaluating and compensating jobs based on their skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions, and not on the people who hold the jobs—is a solution to eliminating wage discrimination and closing the wage gap.

The Institute for Women's Policy Research - "[Still a Man's Labor Market: The Long-Term Earnings Gap](#)" finds women's total earnings over their prime working years average only 38 percent of what prime-age men earn due to a combination of lower pay, more part-time work and time out of the workforce to care for children. The typical prime-age working woman earned \$273,592 between 1983 and 1998 while the typical working man earned \$722,693.

Also, recently the Department of Labor quietly abolished its Equal Pay Matters Initiative, removed all information about narrowing the wage gap from its web site, and refused to use available tools to identify violations of equal pay laws.

2nd Annual "Ready to Run"TM Conference to be held October 14

The 2nd Annual *Ready to Run*TM Conference has been scheduled for October 14, 2006 at the Methodist College in Omaha. Sponsored by the LLWC and the Women's Fund of Greater Omaha, this event focuses on helping women with the steps of running for elected office.

Fashioned after the original *Ready to Run*TM conference held in New Jersey, the program is the product of the Center for American Women and Politics, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers and the State University of New Jersey. *Ready to Run*TM increases awareness of opportunities and processes for participants on a larger political scale, promote active involvement of women wanting to work in government and school districts, and create a viable support network for women entering the electoral system. For more information call the LLWC at 441-7716.

HELP WANTED

Ever wondered if you could make a difference if given the right chance?
If so, we NEED you!

Women's Leadership Board Recruitment program matches female candidates to commissions, boards and task forces seeking to place a woman at their table.
Call 441-7716 for your application!

Voices from Our Past

"Because man and woman are the complement of one another, we need woman's thought in national affairs to make a safe and stable government."

-- Elizabeth Cady Stanton

"There never will be complete equality until women themselves help to make laws and elect lawmakers."

-- Susan B. Anthony

"I never doubted that equal rights was the right direction. Most reforms, most problems are complicated. But to me there is nothing complicated about ordinary equality."

-- Alice Paul

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CQ News

Sexual Harassment Problem on College Campuses

April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month and a recent report by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Educational Foundation found that one-third of U.S. college students have been physically harassed.

According to *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus*, both male and female students encounter sexual harassment, but female students who have been sexually harassed are more likely to say they feel self-conscious or embarrassed, angry, less sure of themselves or less confident, afraid or scared, confused, or conflicted about who they are and disappointed in their college experience as a result of sexual harassment. This report analyzes findings from a nationally representative survey of undergraduate students and is the most comprehensive research to date on sexual harassment on college campuses.

"This groundbreaking new report is the first step in truly understanding what happens on college campuses and how to best create 'harassment-free' schools," said Barbara O'Connor, AAUW Educational Foundation president.

"Because our research shows that sexual harassment takes an especially heavy toll on young women, we are concerned that sexual harassment may make it harder for them to get the education they need to take care of themselves and their families in the future."

Overview of Research Findings

- **Sexual harassment is widespread on college campuses.** Nearly two-thirds (62 percent) of undergraduate students say they have encountered some type of sexual harassment and nearly one-third of students (35 percent of female students and 29 percent of male students) say the harassment is physical, such as being touched, grabbed, or pinched in a sexual way.
- **Sexual harassment takes an especially heavy toll on female students.** More than two-thirds (68 percent) of female students who experience sexual harassment feel very or somewhat upset as a result. Conversely, only one-third (35 percent) of male students admit to being very or somewhat upset. Among female students who encountered sexual harassment, one-third (32 percent) said they felt afraid and about one-fifth (18 percent) said that they felt disappointed in their college experience as a result of sexual harassment.
- **Most harassers think sexual harassment is funny.** Half of male students (51 percent) and almost one-third of female students (31 percent) admit to harassing someone in college. A majority of students (59 percent) who admit to harassing another student say they did so because they thought it was funny, as opposed to nearly one-third (32 percent) who thought the person liked it, and less than one-fifth (17 percent) who wanted a date with the person.
- **Students rarely report sexual harassment to a college employee, yet many would like a way to report incidents.** Only 7 percent of students say they reported sexual harassment to a faculty member or other college employee. More than half of students (57 percent) would like their college or university to offer a confidential, web-based method for submitting complaints about sexual harassment. Nearly half (47 percent) would like their college or university to designate an office or person to contact about sexual harassment.

For additional information on *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus*, including a PDF copy of the report, visit www.aauw.org/dtl.

LLWA On-Line Services

Located within the city's "Interline" web site system, the Women's Alliance (LLWA) directory offers a wide variety of information on individual clubs and organizations, including the contact information. If your organization or agency would like to post information free of charge or update its current information, an application can be obtained from the web site's index page (www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/women/llwa) or call 441-7716 and one will be snail-mailed to you. If you are looking for a way to become actively involved in the community, make new friends or strengthen networks, look in the listings for great connections!

Mark Your Calendar!

The National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) will be holding its 37th annual conference at the Holiday Inn Downtown, 141 N. 9th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, July 19-22, 2006.

Theme for this year's convention is "*Making it Real – Respect, Equality, Achievement, Leadership*" and will feature educational break-out sessions, exhibitors, and awards breakfast with nationally known comedian Juli Burney.

More information on this 3-day event with registration deadline and costs will be made available soon. Check the LLWC's website at www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/women/index.htm or the NACW website at www.nacw.org.



**Surfing the Web again?
Click Here!**

www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/women/index.htm

What will you see? Our work! Annual reports, special reports, Women's Leadership Recruitment Program, Advisory Board membership, Friends information, Women's Alliance Directory, Women in Education grant information, statistics, resources & contact information, news releases, past newsletters, and much, much more!

Local TPPC Plans Activities to Mark Month

Nationally, organizations across the country will mark May as National Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Awareness Month to bring attention to the issues surrounding teen pregnancies and teen parents. The local Lincoln-Lancaster Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Coalition (TPPC) will participate in a variety of ways.

Showcasing teen parents and their perspectives will be the focus of a thirty-minute program to be aired on 5-City TV, Channel 5. Cosponsored by the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission (LLWC), the program will feature moderator Lisa Schulze, Community Educator with Planned Parenthood of Nebraska & Council Bluffs and a panel of four teen parents from the community: Stella Runyan, Janelle Benamon, Alexandria Harper and Trent Gustafson. Topics covered will include the teens' perspectives on parenthood, how they might have done things differently, and what messages parents can give their children and teens to help prevent teen pregnancy. For a schedule of broadcast times in April and May on Channel 5, visit <http://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/mayor/cic/5citytv/guide.htm>.

To bring attention to the statistics on teen pregnancy in the Lincoln/Lancaster County area, TPPC will be mailing postcards to elected officials and policy makers during the month of May. Each postcard will contain a fact on teen pregnancy in our community.

In addition, TPPC will be promoting the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy's annual National Day to Prevent Teen Pregnancy on May 3, 2006. The purpose of the National Day is to focus the attention of teens on the importance of avoiding too-early pregnancy and parenthood. On the National Day, teens nationwide are asked to go to www.teenpregnancy.org and take a short, scenario-based "quiz" that asks young people what they would do in a number of sexual situations.

Organized by the National Campaign, the National Day has widespread support, including National Day founding partners TEEN PEOPLE magazine and TeenPeople.com, over 150 national organizations and media outlets who serve as official National Day partners, and financial support from The Candie's Foundation.

The message of the National Day is straightforward: Sex has consequences. The online quiz (available in English and Spanish) delivers this message directly to teens and challenges them to think carefully about what they might do "in the moment."

TPPC is also participating in "Free Fest," an annual youth event sponsored by Lincoln Council on Alcoholism and Drugs that includes a variety of alcohol and drug free activities, including bands at Antelope Park; Friday May 12 from 4 to 7 pm. TPPC will have a booth where kids can visit and play Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune, win prizes and ask questions.

Founded in 1988, the Lincoln-Lancaster Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Coalition is a broad representation of community agencies and individuals working together to find common solutions to the issues resulting from teenage pregnancy. The Coalition respects a diversity of philosophical viewpoints, but leaves these philosophical positions up to each member organization. As a group, the Coalition works together in those areas of group agreement.

Delivering Much More Than Babies

As women, our ages, needs and health concerns vary. But our desire to receive excellent medical care in a sensitive and caring manner is universal. That's why Lincoln's premier group of all-female OB/GYN specialists is here for you. Our focus is women and their changing needs, at every stage of life - from babies through maturity.

- Birth Care
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- Menopausal Management
- Urinary Incontinence
- Recurrent Abortages
- Tubal Reversal
- Breast Health
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Call 488-4022 to schedule an appointment or to learn more about our services.

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Christine Stevens, MD Tami Clark, PA-C

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Calendar of Events

APRIL 2006

NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

25: Equal Pay Day recognition

MAY 2006

TEENAGE PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

9: Primary Election

10: Regular Commission meeting, 5:45 p.m. K Street Conference Room, 440 S. 8th St., Ste. 100, Lincoln, Nebraska

17: My Movies for Mommies (And Daddies, Too!), 9:45 am, SouthPointe Cinema, 27th & Pine Lake Rd.

18: WomenTalk Taping, "Taking Care of Others & You: Caretaking & Longterm Care Insurance" taped at 5 CityTV Studio, Lincoln, Nebraska

29: OFFICE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

JUNE 2006

GAY & LESBIAN PRIDE MONTH

10: *Ready To Run*™ networking event, 9-11 am, Quarry Oaks, Omaha, Nebraska

14: Regular Commission meeting, 5:45 p.m., K Street Conference Room, 440 S. 8th St., Ste. 100, Lincoln, Nebraska

When You Need A
Friend,
Just
Call On
Me!



Become a member and
support the Commission.
Send your tax
deductible donation(s)
to:

Friends of LLWC
PO Box 81454
Lincoln NE
68501-1454



Take a Break and Take Your Kids...to the Movies!

Parents, grandparents and caregivers of small children need take a break, pack the kids up and go to the movies!

Part of a community program called, "*My Movies for Mommies (And Daddies Too!)*", the next movie is set for March 17th. Cosponsored by BryanLGH Medical Center, Douglas Theatre Company, My 106.3 FM Radio and the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission, discount movie passes are available to parents, grandparents or caregivers with small children, ages 0-3 years.

The first-run presentation is scheduled for 10 a.m. at the SouthPointe Cinema, 27th & Pine Lake St., in Lincoln, NE. Admission is \$3 for parents/grandparents who bring their child to the theater, limit two tickets. Stroller parking is provided.

Movies are suited for mature audiences and children ages four and up are not admitted. Doors open at 9:45 a.m. with door prize drawings and a brief educational presentation. The theater will provide soft house lighting and lower soundtrack noise during the show. Show times are the third Wednesday of every other month. Future 2006 showings for "*My Movies for Mommies (And Daddies Too!)*" are set for July 19 and September 20, 2006.

For more information, contact the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission at 441-7716. The name of the movie to be shown is usually available a week before the presentation.

Sad Voting Facts & Figures for Women

Unmarried women who don't vote or vote infrequently think that:

- politics is too complicated,
- politicians do not listen to them
- politics is controlled by powerful interests (e.g. corporate interests) who have the power to pre-decide election outcomes.

Reasons Why Unmarried Women Do Not Vote

- 62% - I don't vote because the candidates are more interested in getting elected than trying to improve our government
- 50% - I don't vote because politics and elections are controlled by people with money and by big corporations so it doesn't matter if I vote
- 45% - I don't vote because it angers me that people in government do not spend enough time on the issues that are most important to me
- 41% - I don't vote because I don't have enough information to make an informed decision.

4/8/04 Research Report: Women's Voices Women's Votes - Washington Study



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